

Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 1462

EXDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN, EUR

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, XF, EEC, US

SUBJECT: GERMAN ACCOUNT OF KISSINGER-SCHEEL
CONVERSATION MARCH 4

1. DCM HAS BEEN GIVEN IN CONFIDENCE COPY OF BONN'S
TELEGRAM INFORMING OTHERS OF THE NINE OF THE KISSINGER-
SCHEEL CONVERSATION IN BRUSSELS. EMBASSY TRANSLATION
OF FRENCH TEXT OF THIS DOCUMENT FOLLOWS.

2. BEGIN TEXT: BONN MARCH 5, 1974. SUBJECT: MEETING
OF MINISTERS OF P. C. (POLITICAL COOPERATION)
MARCH 4 IN BRUSSELS.
AA CONVERSATION MR. SCHEEL AND MR. KISSINGER.
-- INFORMATION FROM THE PRESIDENCY --
PURSUANT TO THE DECISION OF THE MINISTERS OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE NINE DURING THEIR MORNING
SESSION OF MARCH 4, 1974 IN BRUSSELS, A MEETING HAS
TAKEN PLACE AT 5 P. M. IN THE GERMAN EMBASSY IN BRUSSELS
BETWEEN THE GERMAN MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, IN
HIS CAPACITY AS PRESIDENT OF THE POLITICAL COOPERATION,
AND THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE UNITED
STATES.
CONFIDENTIAL

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MR. SCHEEL INFORMED MR. KISSINGER OF THE DECISION
OF THE NINE TO OPEN A LONG-TERM DIALOGUE WITH THE 20
ARAB STATES AND EXPLAINED THE REASONS MOTIVATING THIS
DECISION. HE UNDERLINED THAT THE NINE DID NOT WISH IN

ANY WAY THROUGH THIS DIALOGUE TO HAMPER THE PEACE EFFORTS WHICH ARE UNDER WAY AND THAT, EQUALLY, THEY DID NOT INTEND TO HARM THE INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS AIMED AT A SOLUTION OF THE ENERGY CRISIS. THE NINE WISHED ON THE CONTRARY TO PROVIDE THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO THE STABILIZATION OF THE SITUATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND IN THE MIDDLE EAST, AND THAT IS WHY THE DIALOGUE WILL BE A LONG-TERM CONCEPT AND WILL NOT CENTER ON THE QUESTION OF ENERGY. THE GERMAN MINISTER IN CONCLUSION INFORMED MR. KISSINGER OF THE STATE OF CONTACTS WITH ISRAEL.

MR. KISSINGER REPLIED THAT HE WOULD LATER ON GIVE THE OFFICIAL REACTION OF THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT TO THE OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION OF THE NINE. HIS GOVERNMENT TAKES NOTE OF THE INFORMATION OF THE NINE. THE INFORMATION ON THE OPENING OF THE EUROPE-ARAB DIALOGUE, HOWEVER, REACHED HIM THROUGH THE PRESS AND QUESTIONS BEARING ON IT HAVE ALREADY BEEN POSED TO HIM A FEW MINUTES AGO IN HIS PRESS CONFERENCE. HE CONSIDERS HIMSELF OBLIGED TO CRITICIZE THE WAY IN WHICH THE NINE INFORM OR DO NOT INFORM THE UNITED STATES ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THINGS.

MR. SCHEEL, HE CONTINUED, HAS EXPLAINED TO HIM THE MOTIVES OF THE NINE. BUT GOOD INTENTIONS DO NOT COUNT IN THE FACE OF STERN FACTS. HE IS OBLIGED TO CONSIDER THAT THE DECISION OF THE NINE WILL BE HARMFUL TO THE PEACE EFFORTS. HIS GOVERNMENT HAS CONSIDERABLE RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE FUTURE CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN AND ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS. IT IS USELESS TO DEBATE ABOUT A FAIT ACCOMPLIT. THE GOOD INTENTIONS WHICH MR. SCHEEL HAS SPOKEN ABOUT CANNOT EXCLUDE THE DANGERS RESULTING FROM THIS DECISION. THE UNITED STATES CANNOT ACCEPT THE PROCEDURE WHICH HAS LED TO THIS DECISION. SUCH A PROCEDURE CANNOT BE MAINTAINED WITHOUT SERIOUSLY ENDANGERING THE ALLIANCE AND OVER THE LONG TERM IT IS NOT COMPATIBLE WITH ATLANTIC RELATIONS.

THE DECISION OF THE NINE, HE ADDED, IS WIDE IN CONFIDENTIAL

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SCOPE. (D'UNE GRANDE PORTEE) IT COULD NOT REMAIN WITHOUT INFLUENCE ON THE RESULTS OF THE WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE AND ON THE RELATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES WITH THE EC. THE RESULTS THAT COULD HAVE BEEN OBTAINED FROM THE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE WILL BE PLACED IN QUESTION BY THIS DECISION. IF EUROPE LETS ITS FOREIGN POLICY "FLOAT", THE UNITED STATES WILL DO THE SAME.

THE GERMAN MINISTER REPLIED TO MR. K. THAT IF THE PROCEDURE FOR MUTUAL EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION HAS IN THE PAST SHOWN WEAKNESSES, IT IS NECESSARY TO IMPROVE IT. FROM HIS SIDE HE IS READY TO DO SO, PARTICULARLY, DURING THE GERMAN PRESIDENCY. MR. K. INTERJECTED THAT HE

REGRETS THE FORM OF THIS FIRST OFFICIAL CONTACT WITH
MR. SCHEEL IN HIS CAPACITY AS PRESIDENT OF TH P. C. IT
DOES NOT WORK IN FAVOR OF ATLANTIC RELATIONS.

MR. SCHEEL THEN INFORMED MR. K. OF THE DISCUSSION
OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE NINE ON THE CONTINUATION
OF THE EUROPEAN-AMERICAN DIALOGUE. (ON THE MARGIN
OF THE CONVERSATION, MR. VAN WELL TRANSMITTED TO
MR. HARTMAN THE DRAFT DECLARATION PREPARED BY THE NINE,
INCLUDING PARAGRAPH 13, REQUESTING THAT THE OBSERVE ITS
CONFIDENTIAL CHARACTER.) MR. SCHEEL EXPRESSED THE HOPE
THAT THE AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES, WHEN MEETING THE
POLITICAL DIRECTORS OF THE NINE IN BONN ON MARCH 12 AND
13, WOULD PROCEED TO THE DEFINITIVE EXAMINATION OF THE
DECLARATION. THE MINE MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
HAVE CHARGED HIM WITH THE TASK OF TAKING A SOUNDING
WITH THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT ON THE SUBJECT OF A VISIT
BY PRESIDENT NIXON TO EUROPE IN THE SECOND HALF OF
APRIL, IN THE COURSE OF WHICH THE DECLARATION COULD
BE SIGNED. IN THE EVENT THAT THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT
SHOULD BE FAVORABLE TO THIS, THE NINE WOULD BE READY
TO HAVE HIM RECEIVE AN INVITATION SUBSEQUENTLY THROUGH
THE CHIEF OF GOVERNMENT OF THE COUNTRY HOLDING THE
PRESIDENCY. MR. KISSIGNER TOOK NOTE OF THIS INFORMATION
AND LIMITED HIMSELF TO STATING THAT HE WAS GOING TO
BRING IT TO THE ATTENTION OF HIS PRESIDENT AND WOULD
GIVE THE REPLY TO MR. SCHEEL. HE COULD NOT PREJUDGE
THE TENOR OF THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION.

END OF TEXT.

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3. DEPARTMENT PLEASE REPEAT TO OTHER POSTS AS APPROPRIATE.
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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